

Amendments to the Claims:

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Cancelled).
2. (Cancelled).
3. (Cancelled).
4. (Cancelled).
5. (Cancelled).
6. (Cancelled).
7. (Cancelled).

8. (New) An optical fiber amplifier for amplifying optical signal, comprising:

a pumping module, in which at least (a) an optical signal input terminal, (b) a pumping light source, (c) a multiplexing filter for multiplexing an optical signal and a pumping light, and (d) an output terminal of a multiplexed light wave are housed in a first minor package, the pumping module being equipped with input and output fibers;

an amplifying fiber module, in which at least an optical amplifying fiber that is used as an optical signal amplifying medium is housed in a second minor package, the amplifying fiber module being equipped with input and output fibers; and

a monitor module, in which at least (a) an input terminal of an amplified optical signal, (b) an output terminal, (c) a distribution filter for separating a part of the optical signal, and (d) a light receiver for receiving a distributed optical signal are housed in a third minor package, the monitor module being equipped with input and output fibers,

wherein the output fiber of the pumping module and the input fiber of the amplifying fiber module are connected with each other,

wherein the output fiber of the amplifying fiber module and the input fiber of the monitor module are connected with each other, and

wherein the pumping module, the amplifying fiber module, and the monitor module are housed in a major package.

9. (New) An optical fiber amplifier according to claim 8, wherein (a) the optical signal input terminal, (b) the pumping light source and (d) the output terminal of the pumping module as three optical components are spatially connected together and positioned relative to each other such that a primary optical axis joining two of the three optical components and a secondary optical axis defined by the remaining one of the three optical components intersect with each other at an intersection at an angle of 20 degrees or less, and

wherein (c) the multiplexing filter of the pumping module is placed at the intersection and is formed of a dielectric multilayer film.

10. (New) An optical fiber amplifier according to claim 9, wherein (c) the multiplexing filter of the pumping module is placed at the intersection and mounted on a seat that is finely movable in a direction perpendicular to the primary optical axis.

11. (New) An optical fiber amplifier according to claim 8, wherein (a) the input terminal of the amplified optical signal, (b) the output terminal and (d) the light receiver of the monitor module as three optical components are spatially connected together and positioned relative to each other such that a primary optical axis joining two of the three optical components and a secondary optical axis defined by the remaining one of the three optical components intersect with each other at an intersection at an angle of 20 degrees or less, and

wherein (c) the distribution filter of the monitor module is placed at the intersection and is formed of a dielectric multilayer film.

12. (New) An optical fiber amplifier according to claim 11, wherein (c) the distribution filter of the monitor module is placed at the intersection and mounted on a seat that is finely movable in a direction perpendicular to the primary optical axis.

13. (New) An optical fiber amplifier according to claim 8, wherein the optical amplifying fiber of the amplifying fiber module is circularly wound and is

hermetically sealed with a laminated film having a lamination of metal and resin.

14. (New) An optical fiber amplifier according to claim 8, wherein at least two of the pumping module, the amplifying fiber module and the monitor module are piled in a direction along thickness of the package.